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House of Representatives

The House met at 12:30 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,

I hereby appoint the Honorable DONNA F. EDWARDS to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 6, 2009, the Chair would now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 31 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker protempore (Mr. Cuellar) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: Beneath Your creative hand, O Lord, every garden needs more attention.

Education and formation of character is never a finished product for Your people.

Constant care and oversight as well as discerning analysis and fresh energy are required daily for governance of a good society.

Therefore, Lord God, grant Your servants patience, perseverance, and determination to work hard to attain the goals Your Providence sets before us, today and every day as long as life shall last.

Reward the long labor of Senator ROBERT BYRD. Grant him eternal rest. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

$\begin{array}{c} \text{HONORING STATE TROOPER} \\ \text{WESLEY BROWN} \end{array}$

(Mr. HOYER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of one of Maryland's finest, a member of our Maryland State Police, Maryland State Trooper Wesley Brown, who was shot to death without warning while working on an off-duty security detail in the early morning of June 11. He was 24 years of age.

Though his life was cut far too short, Trooper Brown filled the years he was given with service to his community, mentoring young men, and love for his family.

It wasn't enough for Wesley to serve as a decorated State Trooper for more than 3 years. He also founded an organization called "Young Men Enlightening Younger Men," a group dedicated to teaching life and leadership skills to boys in Wesley's Seat Pleasant neighborhood, just a couple of miles from where I grew up in District Heights, Maryland.

Many of them came to regard Trooper Brown as a father figure. "I became a squared-away young man," said one of the pupils at his memorial service, "and I'll never forget that smile."

Wesley Brown's death was sudden and deeply unfair, but his community is better because he lived, and the seeds he sowed will outlive him. As the pastor said in Wesley's eulogy, "He showed us how to serve his brother man, and no one had to beg him to do it."

May all of those whom Trooper Brown left behind—his mother, Patricia Bell; his father, Sylvester Brown, Sr.; his fiancee, Ebony Norris; his seven brothers and sisters; and his grandmother, Rosella Bell—find comfort in the memory of his service and the greatness of his contribution to other young people.

We are protected every day by those who have the courage and commitment and love of country and neighbors to defend us here, our domestic defenders. Wesley Brown was one of those. God bless his soul.

 \Box This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., \Box 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

